

## T.H.S. Tells Of Program

The program of events for Torrance High School for the balance of the school year was announced this week by Arthur Main, vice principal.

The events scheduled are listed as follows:

Variety Show, March 12, 8:00 p.m.

Lettermen and GAA Barn dance March 19.

Punior Class Play, April 23.

Public Schools Week, Kiwanis Club luncheon, April 26. Back to School Night, April 27. Instrumental Music, Department Concert, April 30.

Father-Son Night, May 5.

Vocal Music Concert, May 21.

GAA Banquet, June 2.

Junior-Senior Prom, June 4.

Senior Mothers Tea, June 10.

Commencement, June 17.

## Police Car Overturns

Answering a call to an accident Police Captain Ernie Ashton and Officer Hyman Fisher, escaped serious injury Monday when Captain Ashton swerved to avoid crashing into another auto and overturned near Arlington avenue and Sepulveda boulevard.

The crash was the second within a month in which a police car overturned answering an emergency call.

## VETERANS, CIVILIANS ARE PROVIDED WHOLE BLOOD

During the six months from July 1, 1947 to Jan. 1, 1948, a total of \$179,150 worth of whole blood (based on \$25 per pint) was provided veterans' and civilian hospitals.

## TORRANCE HIGH GROUP WILL CONSIDER MOVE FOR NIGHT FOOTBALL

Responding to popular demand of the community, the student body of Torrance High School tomorrow will consider means by which local citizens and the student body can finance needed lights and bleachers for night football games at the local high school next season.

According to Arthur W. Main, vice principal, a letter from the Torrance schools setting forth the plan suggested by a group of local citizens will be considered by the Student Council tomorrow.

Unless action is taken at once, it is pointed out, Torrance High School will be forced to play day games with bleachers for only a few hundred spectators.

However, if the field can be lighted, heavy patronage from the community and students will quickly pay off the cost of lights and adequate bleachers.

The north bleachers at Torrance High were condemned and torn down last year by Redondo Union High School District, which has jurisdiction over the high school until July 1. Torrance games, in the Bay League, were played in Redondo Bowl.

However, since Torrance becomes an independent high school, games will be played locally if facilities are provided, and this is the reason that citizens have suggested that they sponsor the financing of lights and bleachers, in cooperation with the student body.

The letter under discussion, from the Torrance school office, said: "Plans have been worked out in other communities where by the sponsors of the student body or someone in the community would sign a note, assuming a personal responsibility for the loan. Then, in turn, 40 or 50 interested citizens would guarantee the bank the payment of \$100 or \$200 each of that amount in the event the thing did not 'pan out' as planned."

The students were reminded that in promoting such a program they will be contributing to the welfare of Torrance in many ways.

## OBITUARY

### MRS. HARRIETT NICOLL

Mrs. Percy W. Smith, of 2020 1/2 Andree avenue this week received news of the death of her mother, Mrs. Harriett Nicoll, 87, of Halifax, N. S., widow of Thomas E. Nicoll, 83.

Mrs. Nicoll followed her husband in death by only eight days; according to Mrs. Smith, both had been invalids for the past four years. Funeral services were conducted in the Wesley Smith Methodist Memorial church, Halifax, the city where the couple had made their home for the last quarter of a century. Also surviving are the couple's other children, Mrs. Dorothy Coleman, of Taft; Mrs. Gladys Kehoe and Mrs. Annie Mann, of Los Angeles; a son, James, of the home address and seven grandchildren.

### MRS. H. C. HAMMERSTROM

Mrs. Hulda Christine Hammerstrom, 67, of 10958 Budlong avenue, mother of Miss Elisa Hammerstrom, superintendent of Torrance Memorial hospital, died Sunday, Feb. 28, at her home. Also surviving the deceased are her widower, Oscar Hammerstrom, of the home address and a daughter, Mrs. Ruth Ladiges, of San Pedro. Services were conducted at 1:30 Wednesday afternoon at a Los Angeles chapel. Interment was in Roosevelt Memorial Park.

### MRS. EMILY KRAECHT

Funeral services for Mrs. Emily Kraecht, 75, of 1724 Gramercy avenue, will be conducted in First Lutheran church, Saturday, March 6, at 2:00 p.m. Interment will be in Roosevelt Memorial Park. A resident here for the past five years, Mrs. Kraecht passed away at her home on March 2. The deceased is survived by her widower, Henry W. Kraecht, of the home address and four daughters, Mrs. Helen Harris, of this city; Mrs. Dorothy Grothman, South Gate; Mrs. Esther Edwards, Tehachapi; Mrs. Rosalind Grazer, Yreka and nine grandchildren. A member of the First Lutheran church, she was an active member of Priscilla Lutheran circle.

## LETTERS

Feb. 25, 1948  
Editor, Torrance Herald

I have watched with interest the formation of the Torrance City School District and its activities during this first year. I am very aware of the difficulties and problems which have confronted the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools and his staff, and believe that a commendable job has been done.

Now, according to last week's Torrance Herald, there is talk of a bond issue of \$1,450,000 for new schools and equipment. At the regular meeting of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee last Thursday, Mr. Hull, the Superintendent of Schools, discussed plans of a proposed bond issue for \$1,602,000, the same to be submitted to the voters of the Torrance City School District, on May 12, 1948.

I am one of the first to recognize that new schools must be provided to take care of the growing residential district of Torrance, and, as an interested parent and taxpayer, I feel obliged to express myself. We have a contemplated increase in school population in the next two years of approximately 1,200 students. True we have many building projects which may increase attendance beyond that figure, but these plans are in the theoretical stage and, as yet, are only "on paper."

I am opposed to the plans now proposed by the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education as being too ambitious at this time. With building costs at present at an all-time high, and with real estate taxes reaching the point where it is becoming a burden to own real property, and with City, State and Federal taxation reaching deeply into everyone's pocketbook, the bond issue now proposed should be kept to our minimum requirements, and should at this time not be such as to be all inclusive and anticipatory of growth which is in the far future rather than an immediate necessity. The superintendent is asking for \$75,000 for an administrative unit. Certainly this should be deferred to the future. The proposed plan calls for four school sites, for which \$25,000 a site each is requested. This seems very high, particularly when condemnation proceedings are possible, or subdividers may be approached and land purchased for a very nominal figure. In North Torrance the District owns about twenty-two acres of land, valued at upwards of \$50,000, which I am advised is not suitable for schools. This land could be sold or traded for other school sites.

The Torrance Catholic School is now being completed, which will take approximately 300 pupils from grades 1 to 8 out of the public school. This will reduce the figure to be housed in public schools in the next two years, and in addition to the present enrollment, our requirements for the next two years should not exceed 800 additional students. According to the figures, two additional plants and proposed additions to Fern Avenue and Perry schools should handle this number.

The School District has been working for the past year without the State funds secured from average daily attendance of pupils during the previous year, as this was a "gift" to the Los Angeles City School District because of legal technicalities. As a result we voted an increase in school tax rate for one year from 90 cents to \$1.40 per \$100 assessed valuation. This tax, together with High School District taxes, Junior College District taxes, Torrance City taxes, Los Angeles County taxes, Metropolitan Water District tax, Torrance Water District tax, etc., etc., made our tax rate excessively high. In the past our tax rate was about \$1.00 less per \$100 than the City of Los Angeles on the combined tax bill, but now we are paying about \$1.00 more, and, besides this, the County Assessor increased assessed valuations and in some cases doubled or tripled them. I believe that the responsible people of Torrance will support a reasonable bond issue of approximately \$750,000. This will be ample to build two additional school plants and also allow for additions at Fern Avenue and Perry schools. At the same time it should not cost more than 20 cents per \$100 to retire these bonds over a ten-year period. With new industries and homes coming into Torrance there will be a considerable increase in assessed valuation, and new properties will be added to the tax rolls. The importance of this present problem demands that every resident give it his serious consideration.

## College Debate Teams To Appear In Contest Here

National debating teams of University of Southern California and Pepperdine College will meet in Torrance on Monday, March 15, at 8 p.m., under sponsorship of the Torrance Kiwanis Club.

The teams will discuss the question: "Resolved: That a Federal World Government Should Be Established."

The public is invited to the debate which will be held in the library of Torrance High School and the winning team will be selected by acclamation of the audience.

Participants will be leading debaters of both institutions. Last year, Pepperdine won the national debating championship, it was reported.

## Council Cuts Lot Sizes

To conform with ordinances in effect in other cities and in the county, the City Council directed the city attorney Tuesday night to draft an amendment to Ordinance 316 reducing the present minimum lot area from 6,000 to 5,000 square feet with a 50-foot frontage.

The Chamber of Commerce, feeling that certain sections and subdivisions of the city would lend themselves to more rapid development, had earlier advocated the passing of such an amendment.

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Sincerely,

Signed,  
ALBERT ISEN



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## OES Star Points Are Named Chairmen For Meeting Tonight

Members Courtesy Night will be observed by Torrance Chapter No. 380, Order of the Eastern Star at tonight's meeting in Masonic Temple. Hostesses for the evening will be Star Points.

## TROUT SEASON OPENING

The trout and bass seasons open May 1, 1948 throughout the state. After May 1, the season for bass, crappie and bluegill will remain open all year.

## HOSPITALITY

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